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"The Boneyard Blues" A Photoplay in 1reel

Author of Photoplay Hurd Productions Inc. U S A.

FROM DEPARTMENT OF ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY, EDUCATIONAL FILM EXCHANGES INC. 370 SEVENTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY



ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY LETTER NO. 4257

August 15, 1924.

OCIL 20653

"THE BONEYARD BLUES"

Release No. 866.

Pen and Ink Vaudeville by Earl Hurd.

Pen and Ink Vaudeville, an entirely new departure in screen cartoon work, is introduced by Earl Hurd in the new series of Earl Hurd cartoon comedies of which "The Boneyard Blues" is the first release.

Mr. Hurd's screen cartoons in the past have won much favorable comment and have made many friends for this clever artist among picture-goers, but in Pen and Ink Vaudeville Mr. Hurd surpasses the very best work he has ever done before. His new character -- "Props" -- is going to be one of the best known of all screen cartoon figures. "Props" is the boy who handles the "hook" when any act on the bill flops.

"On this week's bill" we have "Isadora Mulligan and Children in Interpretative Dances", "Sahib Gazinkuz's 2.75% Elephant" and "The Boneyard Blues". As a theatrical enterprise, speaking financially, these three acts would have constituted one terrible disaster, but as screen entertainment each of them is a screem.

Isadora and her children resemble Pavlowa like an elephant resembles a blood hound. They are just as graceful as a family of hippopotami. The manager watches their performance through his back stage periscope until he is afraid his audience is going to turn into a mob, and then tells "Props" to give them the air. "Props" performs this feat by taking the Mulligan family to the roof and, one by one, dropping them off with umbrellas for parachutes. When it comes Isadora's time to follow her youngsters through the air, the only umbrella left is one that would have been slightly too small for her youngest offspring. Isadora descends like a rocket.

Gazinkuz rides on to the stage on his elephant. Gazinkuz thinks he is a wonderful magician, but nobody agrees with him — not even the elephant, who turns a somersult over his owner and flattens him out like a pancake. A pulmotor revives Gazinkuz enough for him to hear the manager request that he say a few words before the footlights, but as he is preparing to make his curtain speech "Props" works his mechanical boot and Gazinkuz makes a hasty exit.

Then comes the headline act of the evening, "The Boneyard Blues". With the ribs of the world's boniest horse as the strings of a piano, with two fighting cocks to beet the cymbals, with a goat to beat the bass drum with his head, and with numerous barnyard animals and fowls to imitate the other musical instruments in an orchestra, Silas Siwash puts on a wonderful act, but to the manager it is the biggest flop of the evening and "Props" is again called into service. His method of killing the act is simplicity itself. He calls the bony horse, the nucleus of the entire orchestra, fills a bag with oats and hangs the feed bag over the poor old horse's nose. The horse dies of shock and the act is ruined.

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Page 2.

There is so much activity in each of the scenes in this cartoon comedy that it resembles a three ring circus — you want to see everything that is going on, and find it almost impossible. There is no let up in this snappy novelty subject from the time the orchestra leader raises his baton until the last act is killed, and the whole thing is a succession of laughs that is going to give this new series a wonderful sendoff.

GSW/AW

ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT.

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Dated at Washington D d

OCT 14 1924

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